

# District Court Judge

## M. Francis Neville, Third Judicial District

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**DATE OF BIRTH:** July 9, 1949  
**PLACE OF BIRTH:** Annapolis, Maryland  
**NAME OF SPOUSE:** John F. Neville  
**CHILDREN:** Thomas, David  
**MAILING ADDRESS:** 3670 Lake Street, #400  
Homer, Alaska 99603

**LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA:** 24 years  
Homer 1991 to present  
Anchorage 1978-1990

### **EDUCATION:**

University of Santa Clara, 1967-1971, B.S. Sociology; Arizona State University, College of Law, 1973-1976, J.D.; National Judicial College, 1991, 1995, and 1999, General Jurisdiction, Mediation, Advanced Evidence, Children in Court, Settlement Techniques.

### **POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT POSITIONS:**

District Court Judge, 1991-present; Assistant Attorney General (Anchorage), 1982-1990; Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Department of Interior (Anchorage), 1978-1981; Assistant Attorney General (Phoenix, Arizona), 1976-1978.

### **BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:**

Alaska Court System Committees (forms, fish and game bail schedule), Alaska Bar Association, Alaska Conference of Judges.

### **STATEMENT:**

It is an honor to serve as a judge and to be entrusted with the important responsibility of providing a fair and prompt resolution to legal disputes. After nearly 12 years as a district court judge, I continue to find the work both challenging and rewarding. I handle a wide variety of civil, criminal, traffic, small claims, domestic relations, and probate cases on the Kenai Peninsula. I strive to do so in an efficient manner, following the law and treating everyone fairly and with respect.

I appreciate the positive recommendation of the Alaska Judicial Council and the favorable evaluations of my performance as a judge by members of the Alaska Bar Association, police and probation officers, court employees, and jurors. I hope to continue to serve the people of Alaska to the best of my abilities as a district court judge in Homer.

# Alaska Judicial Council Recommendation

## Judge M. Francis Neville, District Court, Homer

**I. Judicial Council Evaluation.** The Alaska Judicial Council, a non-partisan citizens commission established by the Alaska Constitution, finds Judge Neville to be *Qualified* and recommends unanimously (5-0) that the public vote **Yes** to retain her as a district court judge.

**II. Summary of Evaluation Information.** A survey of 2,860 attorneys in Alaska rated Judge Neville on sixteen categories that are summarized in the adjacent graph. Attorneys rated Judge Neville 3.9 on a scale of 5 on overall judicial performance. She scored highest (4.5) in the categories of conduct free from impropriety, and courtesy. She scored 3.6 or better in all sixteen categories.

	Attorney Survey	Peace Officer Survey	Juror Survey	Court Employee Survey
Legal Ability	3.9	---	---	---
Impartiality	4.0	4.3	4.7	4.5
Integrity	4.1	4.3	---	4.5
Temperament	4.1	4.4	4.6	4.5
Diligence	4.0	4.2	---	4.5
Special Skills	4.1	4.3	---	---
Overall	3.9	4.4	4.5	4.5

Ratings are based on a one to five scale. Five is the best rating and three is "acceptable."

### Rating Scale

5.0 = Excellent

4.0 = Good

3.0 = Acceptable

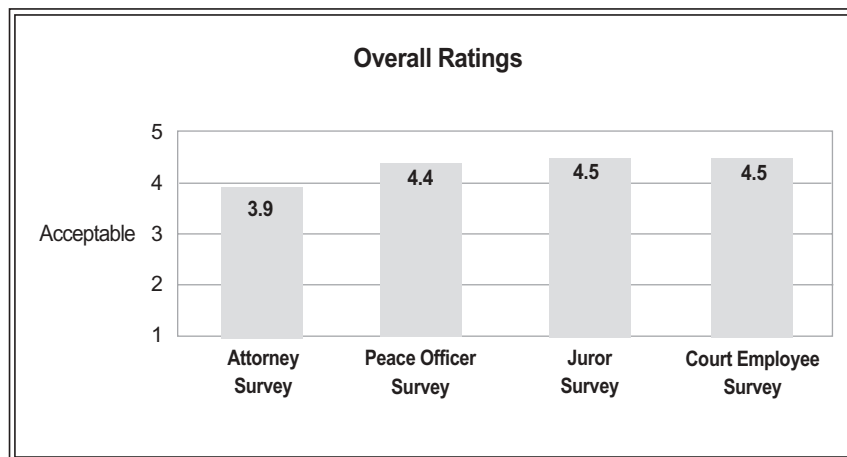
2.0 = Deficient

1.0 = Unacceptable

A survey of 1,704 peace and probation officers in Alaska rated Judge Neville on twelve categories that are summarized in the adjacent graph. Peace and probation officers rated Judge Neville 4.4 on a scale of 5 on overall judicial performance. She scored highest (4.5) in the categories of understanding and compassion and conduct free from impropriety. She scored 4.1 or better in all categories.

A survey of all jurors appearing before Judge Neville in 2000 and 2001 rated her 4.5 on a scale of 5 on overall performance. A survey of all court employees rated her 4.5 on a scale of 5 on overall performance.

The Council also completed a background investigation including a court records check, a disciplinary records check, a review of conflict of interest statements submitted to the court system and a review of financial disclosure statements submitted to the Alaska Public Offices Commission. Attorneys, peace officers, court employees and jurors were asked to submit written comments about the judge. The Council actively encouraged the public to comment, both in writing and in a statewide public hearing teleconference.



**Recommendation: Vote YES to retain Judge Neville**

Contact the Judicial Council at 1029 W. 3rd, Suite 201, Anchorage, AK 99501 (telephone: (907) 279-2526) for more detailed information, or review the information on our Internet site at:

[www.ajc.state.ak.us](http://www.ajc.state.ak.us)

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